REMARKS

Applicants amend the specification to address minor formal matters, such as introducing appropriate section headers. Applicants also amend the claims to remove multiple dependencies, to provide proper antecedent basis, and to address other matters of form. The foregoing amendments introduce no new matter and are not related to issues of patentability.

Entry of the foregoing Preliminary Amendment is in order and requested.

If there are any questions regarding the proposed amendments to the application, we invite the Examiner to call Applicants' representative at the telephone number below.

Respectfully submitted,

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Version With Markings To Show Changes Made

In the Specification

Page 1, line 1, change the title as follows:

BEHIND THE EAR HEARING AID WITH FRONT PLATEHEARING AID WORN BEHIND THE EAR, COMPRISING A FACE PLATE

Page 1, lines 3-4:

The invention relates to a hearing aid-according to the preamble of Claim 1.

Page 1, lines 15-16:

The goal of the invention is to improve a hearing aid according to the species so as to render it simple and inexpensive to manufacture.

In the Claims

Please amend claims 1-5 as follows.

- 1. A behind the ear hearing aid, comprising a housing having a housing shell, an electronic circuit, and a power storage unit, characterized in that the hearing aid (6) is constructed from a housing shell (1) and a multi-function plate designed as a front plate (4) and adapted to couple to the housing shell (1), in which wherein the multifunction plate includes the circuit or an access opening for one of the power storage unit and the electronic circuitis provided.
- 2. The hearing aid according to claim 1, characterized by a commercially available mass-produced front plate (4) which is provided wherein the multifunction plate is



<u>adapted</u> for use in an in-ear hearing aid and <u>which</u> is <u>modified</u> <u>constructed</u> <u>so as</u> to match <u>the a contour of the housing shell</u> (1).

- 3. The hearing aid according to claim 1, characterized in that the multifunction plate is formed of a wherein the front plate (4) which is matched to the contour of the housing shell (1) in standard production.
- 4. The hearing aid according to one of claims 1 through 3 claim 1, characterized in that wherein the housing shell (1) and the front plate (4) are joined in a detachable manner.
- 5. Use of a commercially available A front plate (4)-intended for use in an in-ear hearing aid in a behind-the-ear hearing aid, the front plate (4)-being modified such that said front plate matches the a contour of the a housing of the behind-the-ear hearing aid.